

I cannot believe that the FCC is considering eliminating linesharing. As a former Telecomm employee I first learned of the '96 Telco Act while working as a contractor at WCOM/MCI. Now that I can no longer obtain work in my chosen field, I have invested my life's savings in a CLEC, Covad communications, in the belief that it represents the best alternative to monopoly Bell Operating Companies.

The facts of the matter are these: By eliminating linesharing, the FCC would irreperably damage the pursuit of broadband access in this country. You should know by now that this will increase the profit margins of the BOCs (who have been less than forthcoming in their prior promises of providing broadband to the country) and would in no way prompt them to fulfill further promises. In fact, it will simply guarantee that we as a nation will fall further behind in innovation which can only be achieved by competition. Price is the main barrier to people signing up for broadband, and as soon as the ink is dry the BOCs will raise prices.

I ask you - do you wish to further eliminate innovation or continue with the aim of the original Telco Act, which was to promote competition?

Please reconsider any thoughts of eliminating linesharing, or access to the remote terminals.

Sincerely
Robert Smith